

6662. Misbranding of spring water. U. S. * * * v. Hinckley & Schmitt, Inc., a corporation. Plea of guilty. Fine, 1 cent and costs. (F. & D. No. 8060. I. S. No. 11460-J.)

On April 30, 1917, the United States attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district an information against Hinckley & Schmitt, a corporation, Chicago, Ill., alleging shipment by said company, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, as amended, on or about February 28, 1916, from the State of Illinois into the State of Iowa, of a quantity of an article labeled in part, "Robinson Spring Water," which was misbranded.

Analysis of a sample of the article by the Bureau of Chemistry of this department showed the following results, expressed as milligrams per liter:

IONS.

Silica (SiO_2)	40.6
Sulphate (SO_4)	182.6
Bicarbonate (HCO_3)	37.0
Chlorin (Cl)	86.0
Calcium (Ca)	46.3
Magnesium (Mg)	15.8
Potassium (K) and sodium (Na) by difference	74.1
	<hr/> 482.4

HYPOTHETICAL COMBINATIONS.

Sodium chlorid (NaCl)	141.8
Sodium sulphate (Na_2SO_4)	56.6
Magnesium sulphate (MgSO_4)	78.2
Calcium sulphate (CaSO_4)	116.0
Calcium bicarbonate ($\text{Ca}(\text{HCO}_3)_2$)	49.2
Silica (SiO_2)	40.6
	<hr/> 482.4

Misbranding of the article was alleged in the information for the reason that, although the article of food was in package form, the quantity of the contents of said package was not plainly or conspicuously marked on the outside thereof in terms of weight, measure, or numerical count. It was alleged in substance that the article was misbranded for the further reason that certain statements borne on the label falsely and fraudulently represented the article as a remedy for Bright's disease, diabetes, dropsy, cystitis, gout, rheumatism, indigestion, and kidney and bladder troubles, when, in truth and in fact, it was not.

On December 31, 1917, the defendant company entered a plea of guilty to the information, and on October 15, 1919, the court imposed a fine of 1 cent and costs.

C. F. MARVIN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*